

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/982,815

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2-4 and 6-7 are all the claims pending in the application. Applicants cancel claims 2 and 5 by way of this Amendment.

All pending claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' Admitted Prior Art in view of Jagersberger (5,477,007).

Analysis

Although the Applicants disagree with the Examiner's application of the cited prior art against the independent claims 1 and 4, Applicants amend the claims in an effort to place the claims in condition for allowance, by combining claims 2 and 5 into claims 1 and 4, respectively.

In particular, claims 1 and 4 now recite, among other things, the spacer between the individual twisted conductors. Applicants respectfully maintain that there is no prior art disclosing a multiple continuously transposed conductor with two single continuously transposed conductors wherein the two single continuously transposed conductors have no insulating layer of their own but a common layer encasing both single continuously transposed conductors. In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that the prior art does not disclose that two single continuously transposed conductors are spaced apart from one another by spacers made of an insulating material.

In the prior art rejection, it is asserted that the admitted prior art teaches all the features of claims 1 and 4, except for the individual twisted conductors having no insulating layer of their own. To compensate for this deficiency, the Examiner turns to USP '007 (Jagersberger).

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Jagersberger discloses a **single continuously transposed conductor**, comprising two stacks a, b of partial conductors 2. As discussed in the previous Amendment, Jagersberger does not disclose a multiple twisted conductor, but rather a single twisted conductor. Although intermediate pieces 5 are provided, they form a cooling channel **within** the single twisted conductor, i.e., **between the stacks**. In other words, they are not provided between two different individual twisted conductors.

Thus, if one of ordinary skill in the art were to combine the admitted prior art and Jagersberger, one would not have arrived at the present invention of providing spacers between two different individual twisted conductors. In other words, one would not have thought to implement the cooling channel between two different twisted conductors of the admitted prior art. At most, one would have provided the cooling channel within a single twisted conductor.

Still further, Applicants note that in contrast to the pieces 5 of Jagersberger, the spacer 6 between the two transposed conductors 1 and 2 of the present invention is for protection of the thin enamel insulation of the partial conductors during production and/or the winding of the transformer. In other words, the spacers 5 serve to space apart the individual twisted conductors, whereas the pieces 5 of Jagersberger are cooling channels and not spacers. Thus, there is simply no motivation for one to have utilized such cooling channels to space apart the individual twisted conductors in the admitted prior art.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejections of claims 1 and 4.

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The remaining rejections are directed to the dependent claims. These claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 4, by virtue of their dependency therefrom.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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